

September 2024

# Conscious Contact

Prescott Area Intergroup - Serving Central Yavapai

**NEW INTERGROUP OFFICE HOURS:** Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 10am-4pm | **WEDNESDAY:** 10am-7pm | **SATURDAY:** 10am-2pm

240 S. Montezuma St, Ste 108, Prescott, AZ 86303 (928) 445-8691

## | A NINTH STEP PRAYER |

Higher Power,  
 I pray for the right attitude to  
 make my amends,  
 Being ever mindful not to harm  
 others in the process.  
 I ask for Your guidance in  
 making indirect amends.  
 Most important, I will continue  
 to make amends  
 By staying abstinent, helping  
 others &  
 Growing in spiritual progress.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, CLEVELAND

## “FELLOWSHIP OF THE SPIRIT AZ” CONFERENCE

REGISTER NOW!

## PRESCOTT RESORT

COMING JANUARY 17-19, 2025

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 300 PEOPLE. DETAILS

ARE ON THE [PRESCOTTAA.ORG](http://PRESCOTTAA.ORG) WEBSITE

UNDER **SPECIAL EVENTS** AND IN THE

**AUGUST CONSCIOUS CONTACT NEWSLETTER**



## INSIDE:

■ **Publicity for AA**

■ **Your Roving Reporter**

■ **A Poem by Heidi M.**

Editor's Note: Welcome to the CC Newsletter! You may submit an article for publishing, if you have A.A. writings, events, etc., that are clearly of, or from, A.A.

Please keep it under 500 words,  
*we need your submissions!*

*~In Service, Mike S., Editor*

- Here's how you can receive the newsletter each month in your personal email : *Submit your request or contributing article to the following email addresses:* [mikes\\_prescott@yahoo.com](mailto:mikes_prescott@yahoo.com) & [prescottaa@prescottaa.org](mailto:prescottaa@prescottaa.org)

# PUBLICITY FOR THE FELLOWSHIP

The writing of the book **Alcoholics Anonymous** brought our program to the public in print. The question was how, besides word of mouth, would suffering alcoholics hear about a possible solution to their problem?

The first national publication to write an article about Alcoholics Anonymous was in **Liberty Magazine**. Thanks to Towns Hospital founder Charles Towns, through his contact with the writer Morris Markey, an article was published on September 30, 1939, titled “**Alcoholics and God**”. Orders for several hundred Big Books flooded the AA offices, as did 800 pleas for help from suffering alcoholics and their families.

In the fall of 1939, a five-part series of articles appeared in the main Cleveland newspaper, the **Plain Dealer**, depicting AA in a very positive light. At the urging from Clarence S. the founder of Cleveland AA, the author *Elrick B. Davis* described the Cleveland AA meetings and how each member was able to choose their own concept of God. These articles are part of the reason Cleveland was in the forefront of bringing in new members to A.A.

The biggest bolt of publicity for the young fellowship was when the widely read weekly magazine, the **Saturday Evening Post\***, with a circulation of more than 3,000,000, decided to do a feature article.

The highly respected writer of the article was *Jack Alexander*. When he initially met members of the AA community he did not know what to make of them.

EXCERPT FROM \***“Alcoholics Anonymous”**  
BY JACK ALEXANDER

One-hundred-percent effectiveness with non-psychotic drinkers who sincerely want to quit is claimed by the workers of Alcoholics Anonymous. The program will not work, they add, with those who only “want to want to quit,” or who want to quit because they are afraid of losing their families or their jobs. The effective desire, they state, must be based upon enlightened self-interest; the applicant must want to get away from liquor to head off incarceration or premature death. He must be fed up with the stark social loneliness which engulfs the uncontrolled drinker, and he must want to put some order into his bungled life.

They told him their stories of low-bottom drunkenness. Though they were well dressed, he at first thought they were exaggerating their stories, thinking of them as like circus clowns. He soon met them in their meeting setting and was impressed.

(Continued)

Bill was excited about the article and gave Mr. Alexander complete access to AA records and members.

He wrote about how they “twelve-step” new members, and the history of AA up to that time. He also wrote a description of some of the members using pseudonyms for Bill, Bob, and Marty M.

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*The first paragraph sets the positive tone for Jack’s article, it reads:*

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“Three men sat around the bed of an alcoholic patient in the psychopathic ward of Philadelphia General Hospital one afternoon a few weeks ago. The man in the bed, who was a complete stranger to them, had the drawn and slightly stupid look that inebriates get while being defogged after a bender. The only thing that was noteworthy about the callers, except for the obvious contrast between their well-groomed appearances and that of the patient, was the fact that each had been through the defogging process many times himself. They were members of Alcoholics Anonymous, a band of ex-problem drinkers who make an avocation of *helping other alcoholics to beat the liquor habit.*”

After the article was published in March of 1941, membership jumped from **2,000 to 8,000 members by the end of the year!**

**Many pleas for help were received at the *Alcoholic Foundation*.** At Bill’s urging, Jack Alexander wrote a second article about AA in April 1950 entitled \****The Drunkard’s Best Friend***”. **Bill and Jack became good friends, and in 1953 he became a non-alcoholic member of the** - **Alcoholics Foundation Board of Trustees.**

**Article by Dan S. Prescott Valley, Arizona**

*“How well we love that Jack!” wrote Bill in 1951.*

Sources: *“The Jack Alexander Article About AA”* - (AA Pamphlet P-12),  
A VISUAL HISTORY OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - *Saturday Evening Post’s*  
*Webpage* and *AA Comes of Age* – Wikipedia

**\*Grab a cup of coffee for this one. Almost 6,000 words long!**

# Meeting: Noon Big Book Discussion

## Shepard of the Hills Lutheran Church

The above meeting was founded in February of 2002 by members Larry F. and Mike P. The *Noon Big Book Discussion* meeting began as a result of the split of the Park Avenue Group. Some of its early members included Larry F., Mike P., Alan C., Francie J., Bob E., Walt F., and Carol B.

This group's origins began as a split from the Park Ave. Group. The Group was looking for a different and more inclusive format. The first meeting place was located at 223 White Spar in a log cabin. The early meetings were held on Mon, Wed and Fri and were *Open* discussion. The current meeting format is also *Open* discussion but held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Shepard of the Hills Lutheran Church, 1202 Green Ln., in Prescott.

This group moved to the Methodist church on Gurley St., then moved again on March 2011, to 216 E. Gurley St. First Congregational church due to overrun. Meetings were held by Zoom during the COVID quarantine. ...Finally in November 2020, the meeting moved to where it is held today on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Shepard of the Hills Lutheran Church on Green Lane.



### Historically Speaking

The group wanted a new format.

Something different from the "gender favored" tag meetings which caused resentment. The idea of this meeting was a welcoming environment to all. How Innovative is the thinking, Inclusion of its AA members no matter what.

Currently every last Thursday of the month we celebrate AA Birthdays. A cake is provided by one of our members and we give chips to the celebrant. As cake is being provided by one of our members anyone with a year or more sobriety is asked to first share experience, strength, and hope or topic. (Continued)

Our meeting rotates positions every six months. Currently, our secretary, treasurer, and chair people are committed to keeping this meeting going. One of our members bakes for Tuesday's meeting. The service Chuck does is appreciated by one and all. Chuck literally sets the tone for the Tuesday meeting with his home-baked cookies and fellowship.

At present, both Green Lane meetings are very well attended and offer meetings that include "old timers" who are helpful to the newcomers with very little time.

These meetings are inclusive, instructive, and caring, and there are always people in attendance who are willing to help the newcomer. Chairing this meeting is my service commitment for Tuesday at noon. We have another member chair on Thursday. The vibe in these meetings exudes trust and support.

There is a sense of comradery amongst the attendees. We have a three-minute timer whose ringtone is a *Rooster*. It therefore keeps the meeting on track alerting folks to end their share. There is a new topic person at every meeting which is always an opportunity to share and be the topic person. Our meeting ends on a high note (generally speaking) as we stand together hold hands and close out with the Lord's prayer. The meetings on Tuesday and Thursday are not to be missed. This meeting is my home group. It is supportive of the newcomer and is a diverse group of AA members.

*I think that does it for me, Laura K. ~ Your Roving Reporter ~*

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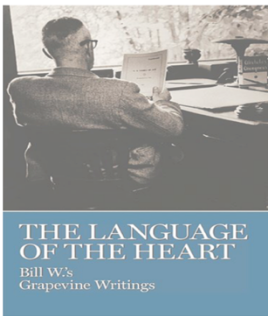
# GRAPEVINE

DAILY QUOTE

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**August 21, 2024**

"We are again citizens of the world. It is a distraught world, very tired, very uncertain. It has worshiped its own self-sufficiency – and that has failed. We AAs are a people who once did that very thing. That philosophy failed us, too. So perhaps, here and there, our example of recovery can help."



AA Co-Founder, Bill W., October 1944, "A Date With Destiny", The Language of the Heart

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*By Heidi M.*

Take the Ride - Arms UP!



Bells & whistles, leather & lace...  
Tears and smiles all fill this place-

Joy and laughter, to a somber pause;  
for all things, are not because-  
Not because of some preconceived conditions,  
But of Love, through contrition

Through the flames we must go  
to the other side, don't ya know  
A push, a pull, a tug, a sigh...  
a freefall into Grace, my oh my!



Grab a shoot, grab a towel  
Let out a coyote howl!  
For we are one.... and another  
And we are here for each other~

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*Inspired by all the women who have lifted me - the "Lushes t' Ladies" Group, because I wrote the poem for them. It wouldn't have been brought into the light without their unbridled truth and emotion. With gratitude to my friend Karen H., who helped me walk through my fear by sharing her wisdom and strong loving encouragement. On 9/2/2024, I AM 1 YEAR SOBER! Heidi M.*